

REMARKS

Claims 12, 14-22, 25-27 and 38-39 are now pending in the application. Claims 1-11, 13, 23, 24 and 28-37 are herein canceled. Claims 12, 20, 25-27 and 38-39 are herein amended. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 12, 14-16, 20, 21, 23, 26 and 27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Angell Jr. (U.S. Pat. No. 3,436,446) in view of Brachman (U.S. Pat. No. 3,940,467). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

It is initially noted Claim 12 has been amended to include the limitations of allowable Claim 13 and Claim 13 is herein canceled. Amended Claim 12 should therefore be in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of Claim 12. Because Claims 14-16 depend from amended Claim 12, Claims 14-16 should also be in condition for allowance for the same reasons. The Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of Claims 14-16.

It is initially noted Claim 20 has been amended to include the limitations of allowable Claim 24, together with the limitations of Claim 23, from which Claim 24 previously depended, and Claims 23 and 24 are herein canceled. Amended Claim 20 should therefore be in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of Claim 20. Because Claims 26 and 27 previously depended from Claim 23, whose subject matter has been incorporated in

amended Claim 20, Claims 26 and 27 have been amended herein to depend from Claim 20. Because Claims 21, 26 and 27 depend from amended Claim 20, Claims 21, 26 and 27 should also be in condition for allowance for the same reasons as noted above for Claim 20. The Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of Claims 21, 26 and 27.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Examiner states that claims 13, 24, 38 and 39 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, Applicants have amended Claim 12 to include the limitations of Claim 13 and Claim 13 has been canceled. Applicants have also amended Claim 20 to include the limitations of Claims 23 and 24 (which depended from Claim 23) and Claims 23 and 24 have been canceled. Therefore, Claims 12 and 20 should now be in condition for allowance. Because Claims 38 and 39 depend from amended Claim 12 and shared certain common limitations with amended Claim 12, Claims 38 and 39 have been amended to correct the antecedent basis of the Claim elements. Claims 38 and 39 should now be in condition for allowance.

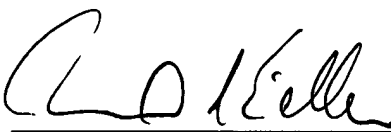
Applicants note Claim 25 is identified as being objected to in the cover sheet for the office action, but Claim 25 is not listed in paragraph 5 (page 3) of the office action with the remaining objected to Claims. Because Claim 25 previously depended from allowable and presently canceled Claim 24 which has been incorporated in amended Claim 20, Claim 25 has been editorially amended herein to depend from amended Claim 20 and should therefore be in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: February 7, 2005

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